

Norris Bruce House
AL-VI-D-213
163 Church Street, Westernport
cira 1911

This residence on Church Street of Westernport was built in Gannon's Addition to the town around 1911. The original owner was John M. David who sold the house to his brother-in-law Norris Bruce in 1921. Davis' wife Edna and Norris Bruce were children of Oliver H. Bruce one of the most respected educators of Allegany County.

The square wooden building was designed with the Georgian Revival symmetry and detail popular early in the twentieth century. The columned front porch and large dormers are examples of the exaggerated design of the style. Eaves consist of a boxed cornice, soffit, and frieze with modillions and dentils.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Norris Bruce House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

163 Church Street

Sixth

CITY, TOWN

Westernport

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☒ DISTRICT
☐ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

☒ STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☒ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Ellis C. Burke

Telephone #: 395-3550

STREET & NUMBER

163 Church Street

CITY, TOWN

Westernport

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21562

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland 21502

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

AL-11-0 213

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The **Norris** Bruce House is located at 163 Church Street in Westernport.

The building, in original condition, consists of a square two and one-half story, three bays wide frame structure covered with asbestos shingles. It rests on a high foundation of poured cement with a plain water table. The pyramidal hip roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Eaves consist of boxed cornice, soffit, and frieze with plain modillions and dentils. Four hip roofed dormers, each with two windows, have eaves consisting of a boxed cornice, soffit and frieze with dentils. Wall features include a three sided bay window with a flat roof on the northwest. One of the three windows is stained glass. Two original multiple flue brick chimneys, one inside end and the other on the interior, have corbeled caps.

The main entrance, in the center of the southwestern facade, includes a one light transom and one light sidelights. The door is of one large beveled glass light and original hardware. An entrance in the center of the southwestern second floor leads to a balcony. Large double windows on the first floor of the southwestern facade are pedimented and pegged one over one lights with wooden slipsills. Other windows are pegged one over one lights, some in pairs. Double and single casement windows are on the northwest and southeast and in the dormers. The front porch, supported by a stone foundation, has a flat roof supported by wooden Roman doric columns. A projection over the stairway is supported by a pair of columns. Eaves of the porch roof are the same as those of the building. A two tiered porch with a shed roof and a small two story shed roofed addition are on the southeast.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES **circa 1911**

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This residence was constructed circa 1911 in Gannon's Addition to the town of Westernport. The original owner was John M. Davis who sold the house in 1921 to his brother-in-law, Norris Bruce.(1) Davis' wife Edna and Norris Bruce were children of Oliver H. Bruce, "one of the most thorough and successful educators" of Allegany County, for whom Bruce High School was named. (2) Bruce's family owned the house until 1975.(3)

The square wooden building was designed with the Georgian Revival symmetry and detail popular early in the twentieth century. The columned front porch, with full eaves and a small balcony, and four large dormers are examples of the exaggerated design of the style. Eaves consist of a boxed cornice, soffit, and frieze with modillions and dentils.

(1) Allegany County Land Records, Liber 136, Folio 225

(2) Ibid, and Portrait and Biographical Record of the Sixth Congressional District, Maryland (New York: Chapman Publishing Company, 1898) p.229

(3) Allegany County Land Records, Liber 479, Folio 347

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allegany County Land Records
Portrait and Biographical Record of the Sixth Congressional District, Maryland
(New York: Chapman Publishing Company, 1898)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 110.76'x214.5'x110'x200.94'

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David A. Dorsey, Historic Sites Coordinator

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites

DATE

August 30, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

3 Pershing Street

TELEPHONE

777-5944

CITY OR TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland 21502

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

TITLE SEARCH

Norris Bruce House
AL-VI-D-213

Allegany County Deed: Liber 483, Folio 952
Grantee: Ellis C. Burke and Neva M. Burke
Grantor: Frederick D. DeVore and Christina DeVore

Date January 30, 1976

Allegany County Deed: Liber 479, Folio 347
Grantee: Frederick C. DeVore and Christina DeVore
Grantor: Richard W. Reilly
Notes: Grantor Attorney in-fact for Marie J. Bruce

Date: May 28, 1975

Allegany County Deed: Liber 479, Folio 345
Grantee: Richard W. Reilly
Grantor: Marie J. Bruce
Notes: Grantee named attorney-in-fact for Grantor

Date: May 28, 1975

Allegany County Deed: Liber 219, Folio 128
Grantee: Norris Bruce and Marie J. Bruce
Grantor: Horace P. Whitworth, Trustee

Date: February 5, 1948

Allegany County Deed: Liber 219, Folio 127
Grantee: Horace P. Whitworth, trustee
Grantor: Norris Bruce

Date: February 4, 1948

Allegany County Deed: Liber 136, Folio 225
Grantee: Norris Bruce
Grantor: John M. Davis and Edna Bruce Davis

Date; January 21, 1921

Allegany County Deed: Liber 108, Folio 161
Grantee: John M. Davis
Grantor: Bridget A. Gannon et al
Notes: part of Gannon's Addition surveyed 1911, see
Liber 108, Folio 106

Date: May 29, 1911

Allegany County Assessments Districts 8 13, 1923-1927
Notes: Norris Bruce lot and dwelling, Dwelling valued at \$2,500.00

Allegany County Assessments District 8, 1910-1917,p. 204
Notes: Mentions lot and improvements valued at \$1,800.00

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

NAME OF PROPERTY:

AL-VI-D-213

LOCATION OF PROPERTY:

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES:

NAME OF OWNER:

ADDRESS:

STORIES:

WINGS, ADDITIONS:

DWELLING SHAPE:

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- () FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
() BRICK: Bond type - common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
() STONE: Bond type - rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
() LOG
() OTHER: Coverings

WALL FEATURES:

FOUNDATIONS:

WATER TABLE:

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS:

ENTRANCE, DOORS:

LOCATION:

HARDWARE:

FAN LIGHT,

Paneled, Vertical,

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES:

original() replaced()

ROOF:

MATERIAL:

PORCHES:

CHIMNEYS:

Number:

Location:

ARCHES:

COMMENTS:

USE:

SIGNIFICANCE:

DATE CONSTRUCTED:

CONDITION:

209
Oliver Bruce house
V1-D
163 Church Street 1907 395 3550 213
WE 4 Ellis C. Burke 483/952 P 5 2 163 Church St.
110.76' x 214.5' x 110 x 200.94 EDS Westport

BAYS: 1() 2() 3() 4() 5() 6() 7() ()

SE corner 2 floor shed add.

(square, cross, rectangular)

- () FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
() BRICK: Bond type - common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
() STONE: Bond type - rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
() LOG
() OTHER: Coverings

Belt Course, Pilasters, Others

High, Low, Brick, Stone

None, Plain, Beveled, Moulded Brick

1/1() 2/2() 6/6() 9/6() 9/9() other()
pegged() nailed() wide() narrow() mitred() pediment()

center w. one large bevelled glass light

original() replaced()

FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN

Paneled, Vertical, Horizontal Boards

(crown, fascia, soffit, bed)

original() replaced() rafter ends, modillions, dentils, frieze, architrave

Gable front, Gable flank, Hip, Shed, Mansard, Gambrel, Flat, Dormers #

wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt; original() replaced()

SHAPE OF ROOF - shed() hip() gable()

Number: 2 Brick() Stone() Corbeled() original() replaced()

Location: Flush end() Inside end() Outside end() Central() Interior()

Door & Windows: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

COMMENTS:

USE:

SIGNIFICANCE:

DATE CONSTRUCTED:

CONDITION:

6 tapered Roman columns
Two tiered porch shed on SE

MARYLAND
NES, AND WATER RESOURCES
ALD, JR., DIRECTOR

11 SE FROSTBURG (JUNC U.S. 49) 15 MI
TON) BARTON 3.6 MI

WESTERNPORT QUAD
WEST VIRGINIA-MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NE/4 ELK GARDEN 15' QUAD

2 140 000 FEET

2'30"

669

670

Franklin Hill

Franklin

Hampshire Hill

Westernport

Cem

AL-VI-D-213
NORRIS BRUCE HOUSE
163 CHURCH ST. WESTERNPORT
USGS WESTERNPORT QUAD
1:24,000
1950

RIVER

Piedmont

Luke Water

W Va Central June

Slaughter house

BALTIMORE
3 TRACKS

MINERAL CO. MARYLAND

DANS MTN

360 000 FEET
(W. VA.)

4372

4371

MARYLAND



AL-VI-D-213
NORRIS BRUCE HOUSE
163 CHURCH ST, WESTPORT
David A. Doisey
12/7/78
EAST.

FIGURE 49



AL-VI-D-213

Norris bruce house
163 Church St. westernport

David A Dorsey

8/14/19

North



AL-VI-D-213

NORRIS BRUCE HOUSE

8/30/79 - David A. Dorsey